

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Dear Interested Applicant:

Each year, Congressman Benishek receives many inquiries from First District of Michigan students who wish to attend a military service academy. One of the application requirements of all of the United States service academies (except for the United States Coast Guard Academy) is nomination by a government official. The nominating official is usually a Member of Congress. The military service academies (Army, Navy and Air Force) also accept nominations from other government officials. If you are interested in attending one of these academies, I urge you to apply for a nomination from me as well as the other nomination sources:

- Michigan Senators Debbie Stabenow and Gary Peters;
- President Barack H. Obama, who nominates children of career military personnel; deceased or disabled veterans; military or civilian personnel in missing status; and Medal of Honor recipients;
- Vice President Joseph R. Biden, who nominates five individuals from across the United States per year; and
- The Secretary of the Army, Navy, or Air Force, who nominates members of regular military, reserve components, and participants in the ROTC.

Information regarding application procedures for these nominations is available through each academy's website, listed below. Applying for more than one nomination increases your chances of securing a nomination. More than one nomination, however, is neither required nor of assistance in gaining an appointment. If another authority nominates you, please notify me so that I may allow other candidates the opportunity for nomination.

Please note that the United States Merchant Marine Academy only accepts congressional nominations.

Candidates for a service academy nomination should recognize that each academy has specific deadlines which must be met if an application is to be successful. Academy websites provide information about deadlines and other application requirements. Also please note that Congressman Benishek generally considers applications only from First District of Michigan residents and children of First District of Michigan residents.

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Here are the steps to follow in seeking a nomination from Congressman Benishek to the service academies:

Contact Congressman Benishek in writing at his Iron Mountain district office, expressing your interest in receiving a nomination to one or more of the academies. Your letter should include your

- name;
- permanent mailing address;
- telephone number;
- temporary mailing address, if applicable;
- high school; and
- year of graduation

A nomination is only one of the requirements for matriculation at one of our nation's service academies. You must also apply directly to each service academy individually. At the same time you contact this office, you should also request admissions information from each academy to which you plan to apply, by writing to them at the following addresses:

United States Naval Academy
USNA Candidate Guidance Office
Annapolis, MD 21402-5018
<http://www.usna.edu/Admissions>

United States Air Force Academy
Admissions Office
USAF Academy, CO 80840-5025
<http://academyadmissions.com>

United States Military Academy
Admissions Office
600 Thayer Road West Point, NY 10996-9902
<http://admissions.usma.edu>

United States Merchant Marine Academy
Office of Admissions
Kings Point, NY 11024-1699
<http://www.usmma.edu/admissions/default.shtml>

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To be considered for nomination, you will need to submit the following to Congressman Benishek's district office in order to complete your nomination file:

- a nomination application
- a resume
- a copy of your high school transcripts, including your GPA, the size of your class, and your ranking within that class
- an official copy of your SAT or ACT scores
- 3 letters of recommendation: one from a teacher, principal, or guidance counselor; one from an employer, coach, or extracurricular faculty advisor; and from any person of your choice who is not related to you.
- photo identification: should be a recent picture, no larger than wallet size

Please forward the requested information at your earliest convenience. We do ask that you submit information as you compile it, instead of waiting until you have everything together.

The deadline for submission of all required documentation is October 16, 2015.

Please contact Danielle Branz in the Iron Mountain district office at (906) 828-2115 if you have any questions or if she can be of assistance in any way during this process.

Applying for Admission to the United States Coast Guard Academy

As noted above, the Coast Guard Academy (USCGA) is the only United States service academy that does not require a nomination for appointment. For information about the USCGA, you may write to:

United States Coast Guard Academy
Admissions Office
New London, CT 06320
<http://admissions.uscga.edu/i2e/admissions>

Sincerely,

Danielle Branz
Special Assistant
Office of Congressman Dan Benishek M.D.